

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Chen

AN 09/833,016

Filed: 04/10/2001

For: Force-Balanced Roller-Cone Bits, Systems, Drilling Methods, and Design Methods

: Art Unit: 3672

: Examiner: Hoang Dang

: Atty's Docket: SC-98-25A

Amendment Copying ClaimsHonorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicant has learned of a potentially interfering application of another. Accordingly Applicant proposes to cancel all pending claims without prejudice, in order to present the copied claims. An Interview is urgently requested.

Claims are being copied only from US application 09/524088, but several other applications of Smith International appear to include subject matter to which the present application may be relevant prior art. These applications include: 09/589999, 09/590577, 09/590580, 09/635116, 09/640219; 09/689299; and 09/775530. Not all of these appear (to the undersigned attorney) to be "interfering," but the Examiner is requested to review all of these applications and to use his independent judgement on this point.

Of course Applicant's grandparent applications, now issued as patents 6,213,225 and 6,095,262 (priority date 8/31/1998), and their corresponding PCT publications WO0012859 and WO0012860 (published 3/9/2000), would appear to be prior art to all of these applications. (Not all of these are "interfering," but the others are being listed to assist the Examiner.)

An IDS is also being prepared, and will be hand-carried to the Group.

Amendment - Serial No. 09/833,016..... Page 1

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From: Robert Groover

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U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

~~1-703-308-3718 or -3719 or -3720 or -3721~~Re: **SN 09/833,016**
(Att'y's Docket SC-98-25A)

From: Robert Groover, Reg.No.30,059

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